

Watermelon Tatting Pattern

By Marilee Rockley

Techniques used: ring, chain, join, picot, bead picot, pearl tatting.

Supplies:

2 shuttles

A small crochet hook

A few yards of thread in 3 colors (red, white, and green).

7 seed beads

Scissors

Needle to sew in thread tails



Abbreviations:

bp	Bead Picot
Ch	Chain
ds	Double stitches
+	Join
-	Picot
RW	Reverse work
R	Ring
Sh	Shuttle

Row 1 (Watermelon rind)



This row is made with the **pearl tatting technique** (using an extra core thread, with unflipped stitches worked over it, alternating sides).

Wind 2 shuttles with green thread, about 1 yard each, continuous thread method.

Cut another piece of green thread about 24 inches long and fold it in half. This will be the doubled core thread.

R 1-7, add doubled core thread with a lark's head knot before closing the ring, and then close the ring.



The length of the doubled core thread is long because the extra is used to wrap around your little finger for tensioning, as when tatting a chain.

Put the shuttle that made the ring over your hand to become shuttle 2, the other shuttle will be shuttle 1. The shuttles will be used alternately to tat unflipped double stitches

over the doubled core.

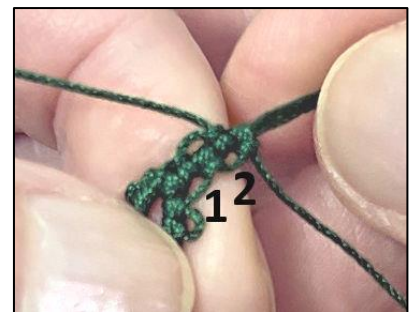
Sh 1 will tat unflipped ds in reverse order – second half, then first half.

Sh 2 will tat unflipped ds first half, second half.

Begin the pearl tatting with Sh 1.

Continue alternating shuttles, 1 unflipped ds each side, until there are **21 loops** (formed by 20 stitches) on the inside curve. End with Sh 1. Tie core threads to secure.

Final R 7-1. Tie, hide ends, and cut.



Row 2 (White inside rind)

String 5 seed beads onto the red thread which can remain on the ball.
Wind shuttle with white thread and tie the 2 threads together. The white thread will make the rings, the red thread will make the chains.

R 4+4 (to picot of first ring of green rind). RW.

Ch 1-1. RW.

R 4+4 (skip the 1st loop of inside curve, join to the 2nd loop). RW.

Ch 1, bp, 1. RW.

R 4+4 (skip next loop, join to following loop). RW.

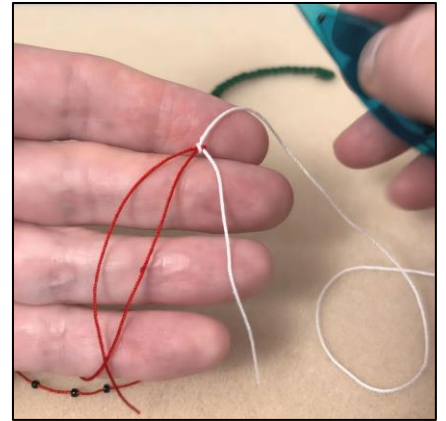
Ch 1-1. RW.

R 4+4 (skip next loop, join to following loop). RW.

Continue in the same way until there are 11 rings (counting the ring that joined to the first ring of green rind as "1") and there are 6 chains having open picots alternating with 5 chains having bead picots. Then, tat the 12th ring as follows:

R 4+4 (join to picot of last ring of green rind).

Tie, hide ends, and cut.



Rows 3 and 4 (Red)

String 2 seed beads onto the red thread and then wind the shuttle, keeping the thread continuous between the shuttle and the ball, and leave the beads on the ball thread.

R 4+4 (join to open picot of previous row). RW.

Ch 1-1. RW.

R5+5 (skip bp, join to next open picot of previous row). RW.

Ch 1, bp, 1. RW.

R 6+6 (skip bp, join to next open picot of previous row). RW.

Ch 1-1. RW.

R 6+6 (skip bp, join to next open picot of previous row). RW.

Ch 1, bp, 1. RW.

R5+5 (skip bp, join to next open picot of previous row). RW.

Ch 1-1. RW.

R 4+4 (to last open picot of previous row). Do not RW. Shoelace tie to bring threads into position to continue.

Row 4

Ch 4. RW.

R 3+3 (join to open picot between the 2 largest rings of previous row). RW.

Ch 5. RW.

R 3+3 (join to same picot as previous ring). RW.

Ch 4. Tie threads to base of first ring of previous row, hide ends, and cut.

